



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
23 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0023

PAUL R. LEPAGE
GOVERNOR

Stephen L. Bowen
COMMISSIONER

EXHIBIT: # VI.A.

TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Stephen L. Bowen, Commissioner*

DATE: April 13, 2011

SUBJECT: Consideration of Proposed Team to Review the Request from Lesley University to Renew its Current Authorization to Offer Academic Credit Programs in Maine

Background: 20-A MRSA, Chapter 409 provides that the State Board of Education may approve an application from a postsecondary educational institution located outside the State of Maine to offer within the state courses or programs for academic credit. Officials from Lesley University have made application to renew its current authorization to offer, in Maine, the degree of Master of Education in the areas of: Creative Arts in Learning; Technology in Education; Literacy; Language, Reading and Writing; Special Education, Pre-K-9; and Teaching, Learning and Assessment.

Lesley University is incorporated under the laws of the State of Massachusetts and is authorized to grant undergraduate and graduate degrees by the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education and the Massachusetts Department of Education. The institution was founded in 1909, and was formally incorporated in Massachusetts as The Lesley School in 1941; subsequently, it became Lesley College, and its name was changed to Lesley University in 2000. It is based in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and has off-campus sites in 21 states.

The institution has been continuously accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges since 1952. It received ten-year accredited status at its latest review, conducted in the spring of 2005. Since 2006, Lesley has offered five master's level education degree programs in Poland, Westbrook, Cape Elizabeth, Hinckley, and York with cohort sizes ranging from a low of 11 to a high 22.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board of Education accept the list of proposed team members to review the Lesley University application to continue to offer its graduate programs in the State of Maine.

*Prepared by Harry Osgood
Higher Education Specialist

Review Team Membership

Lesley University

**Dr. Lynne Coy-Ogan, Chair
Provost
Husson University
Bangor, Maine**

**Dr. Christopher Quinn
President
Kaplan University in Maine
South Portland, Maine**

**Dr. Anita Charles
Director of Teacher Education
Bates College
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**Barbara Moody
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***Non-voting Participants**